Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition ~~containing~~ consisting essentially of, as active ingredient, ~~at least one~~ a NO synthase inhibitory substance and ~~at least one~~ a metabolic antioxidant substance possessing at least two thiol groups and which intervene(s) in the redox status of thiol groups, and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable support, said composition having the dual activity of inhibiting the NO synthase and antioxidant.

Claims 2-3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein the metabolic antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of dithiothreitol, pyritinol, lipoic acid and its derivatives, the dimeric disulfide derivatives of penicillamine or N-acetylcysteine, and peptides comprising at least two cysteine residues.

Claim 5 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein the NO synthase inhibitory substance and the metabolic antioxidant substance are in the form of a salt.

Claim 6 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein the salt is formed from a derivative of the NO synthase inhibitory substance containing at

least one basic group and a derivative of the metabolic antioxidant substance containing at least one acid group.

Claim 7 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 5 wherein the metabolic antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of lipoic acid or its derivatives, the dimeric disulfide derivatives of penicillamine or N-acetylcysteine and peptides containing at least two cysteine residues.

Claim 8 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein the NO synthase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of a compound of amino acid type, a compound of the guanidine isothiourea, nitro- and cyano-aryl, amino-pyridine, amino-pyrimidine, amidine, indazole and imidazole families.

Claim 9 (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 8 wherein the NO synthase inhibitor of amino-acid type is selected from the group consisting of ~~is~~ L-arginine, ornithine and lysine derivatives.

Claim 10 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein the NO synthase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of L-nitro-arginine, L-nitro-arginine methyl ester, L-N-monomethylarginine, aminoguanidine, agmatine, 2-amino-1-(methylamino)benzimidazole, 5-nitro-indazole, 6-nitro-indazole, 7-nitro-indazole, 1,2-(trifluoromethylphenyl) imidazole, 2-amino-4-methyl-6-(2-aminoethyl)pyridine, 2-iminopiperidine, 2-iminohomopiperidine, 2-imino-5, 6-dihydro-1,3-thiazine, 2-imino-5,6-

dihydro-1,3-oxazine, 2-iminotetrahydropyrimidine, N-phenyl-2-thiophene-carboximidamine, S-ethylisothiourea, S-methyl-L-thiocitrulline and S-ethyl-L-thiocitrulline.

Claim 11 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein the metabolic antioxidant is lipoic acid in racemic or enantiomeric form.

Claim 12 (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein the NO synthase inhibitor is a neuronal and/or inductible NO synthase inhibitor.

Claims 13-24 (cancelled)

Claims 25-36 (withdrawn)